

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 09605 040255Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 /055 W
-----040505Z 119578 /22

R 040219Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1765

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 9605

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, TH
SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER DISSOLVES THE BANGKOK METROPOLITAN ADMINISTRATION

REF: BKK 9287

1. ACTING ON A DIRECTIVE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER'S ADVISORY COUNCIL (PMAC), PRIME MINISTER THANIN KRAIWICHIAN INVOKED ARTICLE 21 OF THE CONSTITUTION TO DISSOLVE THE BANGKOK METROPOLITAN ADMINISTRATION (BMA) ON APR 29. CHIANG MAI GOVERNOR CHALO THAMMASIRI HAS REPLACED OUSTED BANGKOK GOVERNOR THAMMANUM THIAN-NGOEN. THIS ACTION MARKS THE END OF THE ONLY REMAINING ELECTED GOVERNMENTAL BODY OF ANY IMPORTANCE IN THAILAND.

2. A CEREMONY WAS HELD ON MAY 2 AT THE BANGKOK MUNICIPAL HEADQUARTERS MARKING THE TURNOVER IN THE BMA. ASIDE FROM CHALO, THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ANNOUNCED THE APPOINTMENT OF FOUR NEW DEPUTY GOVERNORS: CHONG WONGKHAN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE SECONDARY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT; THAMRONG SUKCHAROEN, AN INSPECTOR WITH THE BMA; SAKONCHIT PHANOMWAN NA AYUTTHAYA, DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF MUNICIPAL AND PUBLIC WORKS; AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DR. SUPHAWAT PHANACHET, A LECTURER AT MAHIDON UNIVERSITY.

3. THE PRIME MINISTER'S ORDER ALSO DISSOLVED THE BANGKOK ASSEMBLY IN PLACE OF WHICH THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR HAS APPOINTED 45 NEW MEMBERS. MOST OF THOSE APPOINTED ARE ACTIVE OR RETIRED CIVIL SERVANTS. NONE OF

THE FORMER ASSEMBLYMEN WAS APPOINTED TO THE NEW ASSEMBLY.

4. INTERIOR MINISTER SAMAK SUNTHORAWET, WHOSE MANIPULATIONS HELPED BRING ABOUT THE DISSOLUTION (SEE REFTEL), FINALLY BESTED HIS OLD RIVAL THAMMANUN, BUT HE FAILED TO GET ANY OF HIS CLOSE PROTEGES APPOINTED TO THE NEW GOVERNMENT. NEVERTHELESS, WHILE GOVERNOR CHALO IS REGARDED AS AN HONEST AND COMPETENT ADMINISTRATOR, HE WILL BE FAR LESS TROUBLE TO SAMAK THAN THAMMANUN. SAMAK HAS ALREADY RE-OPENDED THE ISSUE OF ILLEGAL VENDORS (SEE REFTEL), AND HAS ORDERED THE NEW BMA TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION OF A 6 KILO-METER HIGHWAY WHICH THAMMANUN HAD BLOCKED.

5. BIOGRAPHIC MATERIAL ON CHALO FOLLOWS IN SEPTEL.

WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Concepts: CLOSURE OF OFFICES, ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT, GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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